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DE RUEHKT #1375 1510800
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 310800Z MAY 06
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1656
INFO RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 4418
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 4672
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 9777
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 2656
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 4071
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 9806
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0924
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1814
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1157
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAAIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 001375

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/31/2016

TAGS: PTER PGOV NP

SUBJECT: MAOIST LEADER APPEARS IN PUBLIC WARNING GOVERNMENT

Classified By: Ambassador James F. Moriarty. Reasons 1.4 (b,d).

Prachanda Warns of "Violent Storm"

¶1. (U) Maoist Chairman Prachanda, in his first public appearance in Nepal in a number of years, said on May 30 that his party was committed to making the current peace talks a success. The party's second-in-command, Dr. Baburam Bhattarai, also appeared at a Maoist rally in Makwanpur District, south of Kathmandu, on May 30. Addressing the mass meeting, the two top Maoist leaders warned of a "violent storm" of protests if talks with the government failed. Prachanda reiterated this threat in a May 30 interview in the Nepali language daily Annapurna Post. Prachanda alleged that the government was "misinterpreting" the Maoist mass meeting planned for June 2 in Kathmandu. Prachanda urged the government to nationalize all the property of the late King Birendra. Media reported that, although not scheduled, the Maoist leaders addressed the gathering in response to locals' request as the two Maoist leaders had been residing in the area for a few days.

Comment

¶2. (C) Prachanda's threat of a violent storm of protests if talks fail once again calls into question Maoist goals for the peace talks. His warning also indicates the insurgents have no intention of giving up arms in the near future. QORIARTY